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**REGISTERED PATENT AGENTS

December 21, 2000

WRITER'S DIRECT NUMBER:
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Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Box Patent Application

Re: U.S. Utility Patent Application
(Divisional of U.S. Appl. No. 09/489,679; Filed: January 24, 2000)
Appl. No. To be Assigned; Filed: Herewith
For: **Apparatus and Method for Drying Solutions Containing
Macromolecules**
Inventors: Ally *et al.*
Our Ref: 0942.4060002/LEA/DTJ

Sir:

The following documents are forwarded herewith for appropriate action by the U.S.
Patent and Trademark Office:

1. PTO Utility Patent Application Transmittal Form (PTO/SB/05);
2. Application Data Sheet;
3. U.S. Utility Patent Application entitled:

Apparatus and Method for Drying Solutions Containing Macromolecules

and naming as inventors:

Abdul H. Ally
Brent W. Henry
Michael W. Schuette

Assistant Commissioner for Patents

December 21, 2000

Page 2

the application consisting of:

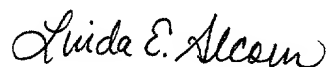
- a. A specification containing:
 - (i) 25 pages of description prior to the claims;
 - (ii) 7 pages of claims (49 claims);
 - (iii) a one (1) page abstract;
- b. 27 sheets of drawings: (Figures 1, 2, 3A-3B, 4-16, 17A-17B, 18-26);
4. A copy of the executed Combined Declaration and Power of Attorney for Patent Application, as originally filed in U.S. Appl. No. 09/005,477;
5. Authorization to Treat a Reply As Incorporating An Extension of Time Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a)(3) (in duplicate);
6. A Preliminary Amendment; and
7. Two (2) return postcards.

It is respectfully requested that, of the two attached postcards, one be stamped with the filing date of these documents and returned to our courier, and the other, prepaid postcard, be stamped with the filing date and unofficial application number and returned as soon as possible.

This patent application is being submitted under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(b) without filing fee.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.



Linda E. Alcorn
Attorney for Applicants
Registration No. 39,588

LEA:DTJ:mal

Enclosures

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**UTILITY
PATENT APPLICATION
TRANSMITTAL**

(Only for new nonprovisional applications under 37 CFR § 1.53(b))

Attorney Docket No.	0942.4060002/LEA/DTJ
First Inventor	Abdul H. Ally
Title	Apparatus and Method for Drying Solutions Comprising Macromolecules
Express Mail Label No.	

JC915 U.S. PTO
09/14/2000
12/21/00**APPLICATION ELEMENTS**

See MPEP chapter 600 concerning utility patent application contents

ADDRESS TO:Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Box Patent Application
Washington, DC 20231

1. ☐ Fee Transmittal Form (e.g., PTO/SB/17)
(Submit an original, and a duplicate for fee processing)
2. ☐ Applicant claims small entity status.
See 37 CFR 1.27.
3. ☒ Specification [Total Pages 33]
(preferred arrangement set forth below)
- Descriptive title of the Invention
- Cross Reference to Related Applications
- Statement Regarding Fed sponsored R & D
- Reference to sequence listing, a table, or a computer program listing appendix
- Background of the Invention
- Brief Summary of the Invention
- Brief Description of the Drawings (if filed)
- Detailed Description
- Claim(s)
- Abstract of the Disclosure
4. ☒ Drawing(s) (35 U.S.C. 113) [Total Sheets 27]
5. ☒ Oath or Declaration [Total Pages 3]
a. ☐ Newly executed (original or copy)
b. ☒ Copy from a prior application (37 CFR 1.63(d))
(for continuation/divisional with Box 17 completed)
i. ☐ DELETION OF INVENTOR(S)
Signed statement attached deleting inventor(s) named in the prior application, see 37 CFR §§ 1.63(d)(2) and 1.33(b).
6. ☒ Application Data Sheet. See 37 CFR 1.76.
7. ☐ CD-ROM or CD-R in duplicate, large table or Computer Program (Appendix)
8. Nucleotide and/or Amino Acid Sequence Submission (if applicable, all necessary)
a. ☐ Computer Readable Form (CRF)
b. Specification Sequence Listing on:
i. ☐ CD-ROM or CD-R (2 copies); or
ii. ☐ paper
c. ☐ Statements verifying identity of above copies

ACCOMPANYING APPLICATION PARTS

9. ☐ Assignment Papers (cover sheet & document(s))
10. ☐ 37 CFR 3.73(b) Statement ☐ Power of Attorney
(when there is an assignee)
11. ☐ English Translation Document (if applicable)
12. ☐ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)/PTO-1449 ☐ Copies of IDS Citations
13. ☒ Preliminary Amendment
14. ☒ Return Receipt Postcard (MPEP 503)
(Should be specifically itemized)
15. ☐ Certified Copy of Priority Document(s)
(if foreign priority is claimed)
16. ☐ Request and Certification under 35 U.S.C. 122 (b)(2)(B)(i). Applicant must attach form PTO/SB/35 or its equivalent.
17. ☒ Other: Authorization under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a)(3)

17. If a CONTINUING APPLICATION, check appropriate box, and supply the requisite information below and in a preliminary amendment, or in an Application Data Sheet under 37 CFR 1.76:

☐ Continuation ☒ Divisional ☐ Continuation-in-Part (CIP) of prior application No: 09/489,679
Prior application information: Examiner Gravini, S. Group/Art Unit: 3749

For CONTINUATION OR DIVISIONAL APPS only: The entire disclosure of the prior application, from which an oath or declaration is supplied under Box 5b, is considered a part of the disclosure of the accompanying continuation or divisional application and is hereby incorporated by reference. The incorporation can only be relied upon when a portion has been inadvertently omitted from the submitted application parts.

18. CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS☐ Customer Number or Bar Code Label

(Insert Customer No. or Attach bar code label here)

or ☒ Correspondence address below

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NAME (Print/Type)	Linda E. Alcorn	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	39,588
SIGNATURE		Date	December 21, 2000

Burden Hour Statement: this form is estimated to take 0.2 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Box Patent Application, Washington, DC 20231.